PROPOSED COMPENDIUM OF LEGAL TERMS ON OFFICIAL CORRUPTION
PRODUCT N° 34

1. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE COMPENDIUM

The benefit to the Judicial Branch of Peru to have a Compendium associated with the Supreme Court Jurisprudence, understanding that the project is organized with the theme of official corruption, can best be understood from the definition of a Compendium and its application in the case presented here.

1.1 Definition and objectives of a Legal Compendium

A Compendium is a standardized and systematized list of terms (that will be referred to as descriptors throughout this report), which identifies various sources that pertain to a specific area of knowledge.

The standardization is a process through which the terms are organized and are then used to develop the first version of the Compendium and its subsequent modification and expansion. The systematization is actually the result that the user of the Compendium can observe when an orderly set of terms on a specific matter is found.

The standardization and systematization generate control of the terms as they facilitate their location as a unit, but are also part of a whole, so that the potential user can easily access valuable information from a system. In other words, a Compendium as a document is not an end in itself but a tool to act as a bridge between the user and the system and subject matter that the Compendium contains.

In this regard, the controlled language has a structure, is precise, unambiguous, and provides logical and associative relationships. This builds on the benefits of specialized language for professional purposes, compared to natural or uncontrolled language employed by most users of a system.

The Spanish standard UNE 50 – 106 – 90 Directives to establish and develop monolingual Compendiums, applied to the one we present here, technically defines a Compendium as:

 "Vocabulary of a controlled indexing language, formally organized in order to make explicit a priori relationships between concepts".

A Compendium is always perfectible while constantly aiming to meet two key objectives:

a) Take data from relevant sources according to each area, to accurately and completely reflect the information of the specialized area to which it will be applied.

b) Establish the most appropriate terms and references to the subject matter of the Compendium, taking into account the language and characteristics of all the sources, and the informational needs of users.

1.2 A Compendium for the topic "official corruption"

This Compendium consists of legal terms pertaining to official corruption and is the result of the work outlined in the Assessment and Methodology Guide, which was developed within the Project framework.

As corresponds to the nature and purpose of the Compendium, legal terms are systematized so that users can identify relationships between them and easily understand the structure of the subject to which it is intended, which is part of the Criminal Law.

The sources from which the terms or descriptors are drawn are textbooks, judgments and rules on official corruption in the Peruvian criminal law. Nonetheless, the descriptors can continue being developed and refined as can the structure of the Compendium in its entirety, as detailed in this document.

According to what the essence of the Compendium of official corruption is, it provides the user with the ability to understand the relationships between all the terms related to the corruption of officials. However, because it is a Compendium that will be installed on the page of the Judiciary, computer operators shall place it on a platform that allows associating judgments of the Supreme Court to each of the descriptors enabling the user to retrieve them while inspecting the Compendium.

Regarding the information aspects, the Compendium has been developed with the web software Tema Tres, which for its versatility allows an efficient organization of descriptors and link the different relationships explained below.

2.   COMPENDIUM STRUCTURE

The Compendium structure refers to each of its components and relationships to finally present an overview of the structure so as to have a clear vision of it. The contents of this Compendium are the following:

1. CONCEPT FRAMEWORK OF THE COMPENDIUM
    1.1. Definition and objectives of a compendium
    1.2. A compendium for "official corruption"
2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPENDIUM
    2.1. Descriptors, relationships and operators
        2.1.1.   Associative relationships based in hierarchy
        2.1.2.   Associative relationships based on semantic category
        2.1.3.   Substitution or preferred relationships